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A NEW Creed.

Confisting of XII. ARTICLES for every true Protestant and Loyall Subjects within the three Kingdomes of England, Scotland and Ireland to make Profession of.

In manner and forme following.

Printed 1648.

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ARTICLE. I.

I Doe beleeve King CHARLES to be my undoubted Soveraigne, and that by hereditary succession, the three Crownes of England, Scotland, and Ireland are by proper right entail'd on y upon him and his Posterity, and that no sublunary Power, by what law, pretence, interest, clame or title soever can divest him of any part of that right power, authority, and honour naturally annexed to his Royall Person, without violation of the Lawes of Nature, Reason, Conscience & Religion; without the extirpation of the Nationall and fundamentall Lawes, (an act of highest treason) being the onely ligamentes, and sinnewes of this Kingdome; and the most horrid breach of Protestations, Oathes and Covenants; and that no person or persons, of what degree or quality soever, may encroach upon him, or any thing due y appertaining to him, without incurring for every such act, enacts, a just censure and conviction of Theft, Treason, and Rebellion.

Secondly, I doe beleeve King CHARLES to have more grace in his heart, and more Wit in his little finger, then there is in all the hearts, and the whole body of the Parliament now sitting at Westminster; and though just Jealousies and Feares

made him to desert his Parliament, yet I believe they could never make him decline his Principles; and I doe confidently presume that that Dagon to which the Goliahs and Philistins of this Kingdom have these seven yeers fall'n down and worship't, will ere long doe homage to that Royall Ark (Mercy-seat, and our Israels glory, canopi'd with Cherubims wings) in a headlesse tribute, too slight a recompence for treason and Idolatry.

Thirdly I doe believe, that King CHARLES hath suffered more then any Prince since the land was first a Monarchy, and though his enemies have conquered his Person, yet his Spirit is invincible; so that though over-com'd, he still remaines a Conquerer. I believe he needed no other honour to his combates, but the equity of his quarrell, and the goodnesse of his cause; which though the dull-ey'd Multitude could not then behold; yet now they have got Spectacles, they discerne him (though at a distance yet) triumphing in a bloodlesse victory.

ART. II.

I doe believe, That those whom God hath joyn'd together, no man ought to separate, and that Queen MARY the lawfull Spouse of our dread Soveraigne, being unlawfully banished & dissented from the comfortable fruition of her Royall Comfort, is flat opposition to the Lawes of God, and consequently rebellion against God himself, & that the Parliament have endeavoured as much as in them lyeth, of an honest and vertuous woman, to make her an arrant whore; who but Parliament men would doe such things? moreover I believe that to expell Papacy, which is but one faction, and entertaine, and encourage many, to drive out Episcopacie, and bring in liberty, to pull downe Monarchy, and set up Aristocracie, is the evidence of desperate, hypocriticall, Diabolicall,

ART. III.

I beleeve, That the Parliament conven'd by Royall authority. Anno 1640. was a lawfull and conscientious Parliament; and I doe beleeve that when the whole body thereof is aptly and compleatly unite together in the Members, without any forcible dislocation, or false election, it is then the highest Judicatory in this Kingdome; but to say that the Parliament (statu quo nunc) being disjoynted, severed and mangled in its members, (scarce one third part appearing) and acting by a self-seeking gladiatory and tyrannicall Power, is a lawfull and an equall Parliament; I confesse I have not so much faith as to beleve it; much lesse to thinke that they have any power obligatory to binde the Conscience of any Subject to yeeld either active or passive obedience, to any Act or Ordinance from them proceeding, being a meer compound of usurpation, illegally sitting, and as illegally acting, contrary to Parliamentary power, and not as the visible Representatives of the body politique.

Secondly I beleeve, That illegall Conventicle of men in the Parliament House, to be the onely Authors and fomentors of these unnaturall and civill Warres and Devisions; and guilty of all the innocent blood that hath been shed within this Kingdome; and that they strive to hold up their most intollerable tyranny, though with the losse of Three Kingdomes, as appears by their disrespects of poor death-sick Ireland, their slownesse in answering the Demands of Scotland, and their unconscionable and refractory Propositions to his Majestie, tending as much to the publique Peace, as Edge-hill fight, or the murder of his Royall Person.

Thirdly I beleeve, That if this Parliament were once off of the hooks, or throwne out of the Kingdoms saddle, (who have so long rid Hackney, till they have broke the backs of the

whole tribe of Issachar, and the Manie-asses of this Nation) and another Parliament chosen, of men whose fingers never dropt with blood, certainly our Peace lies before us, and all our grievances were at a period; (for it is impossible that the sweet sounds of Peace and joy should be heard within our walls, so long as these men of blood sit pearch't above us with the sword in one hand, and the Scepter in another:) provided that his Majesties Power and Regall Priviledge be no wayes infring'd; but that he with them may settle all things into order, (the wheeles of the State being broken by these Egyptian Charetors) so shall this poor languishing King some yet live to be the envie and the glory of the world.

ART. IV.

I beleeve, that thing which they call a Synod to be a thing of nothing; a company of slow pac'd Dromedaries, not good for any thing except the bare name of an Assembly, who have so long been blundering upon the Articles of Faith, that they have quite lost their credit; and I beleeve, if their buttocks did not grow by their tedious junctures to the benches whereon they sit; that shame or good manners had long since rouz'd them from their squat, who now are growne as shamelesse as they came brain'esse, having evacuated their profound wits into their deeper pockets, made a gally-maufrey of Religion, which before was pure and sound (not needing any of their compounded antidotes) and turn'd the House of God quite out of the Windowes.

ART. V.

I beleeve, That his Excellency hath yet some seeds of grace remaining in him, and that as he did well when he was the Kings Subject, so he may now doe better to be the Kings servant; what though hitherto little obedience is observable? yet I would have him know, that whilst he gazes on his Masters for remuneration of desert, whilst he acts fidelity, to satisfie their ends, if he glance but on one side, then he hath whet a sword to prune his own head; and before his wings are too much

much entangled in these Parliament lime-twiggs, let him beware, least too late repentance (with many of his so exalted brethren) make him cry, Had-I-wist.

ART. VI.

I beleeve, the Army will now grow honest, the tares (the Agitators) being weeded up; and that there is no way for them to recover their Arears, but to joyne with his Majestie, who hath already made a Royall Promise (beseeming such a King) whose Thought is his Word, his Word a Law, that Law unalterable; that he will performe the same.

Secondly I beleeve, That the Souldiers have more wit then to come into the City to exact or leavie their pay, their head-pieces scap'd a scouring at their first being there, it is a strong temptation to presume the second time.

ART. VII.

I beleeve, That the head of Anarchy is crusht into the very braines by the unanimity of the Army, and that though Consciences may be countenanced, yet Heresy, Schisme and Prophanes shall not be continued and authorized.

ART. VIII.

I beleeve, that the publike faith which lies now in Lavehddr for the Parliaments debts, is not worth a lowse, and all those that have lent out coyne upon such usury, shall ere long have it return'd to 'em by Tom Long the Carrier.

ART. IX.

I beleeve, and am verily perswaded, That the time is at hand, when the Three Kingdomes shall be linck't together in one love-knot; that his Majestie shall be set againe upon his Royal Throne (if a blow prevent not) and sway the Scepter of his Kingdome in Peace; that Satans Synagogue at Westminster shall be turn'd into a holy Senate, and the Devill voted out of the Parliament-House, and then shall plenteousnesse walke in our streets, and our houses be filled with rejoycings; then shall

Cheap-

Cheap-side conduit run with wine, and both rich and poor drink a health, and cry, GOD save King CHARLES.

ART. X.

I beleeve, That if Peters and Dell, those infernall Regicides, that Rainsborow, Martyn, and Scot, the Agents and Agitators that have conspired against the Lords Anoynted, and the Peace and happinesse of the Kingdome; be not hang'd according to their deserts, that those Foxes with their firebrands, will set the whole Kingdome on a fresh flame; and then none shall beat me off from this belief, That the Parliament sits to no other end and purpose, but to protect murder, and to councell Treason.

ART. XI.

I doe beleeve, That before 12. Suns surround the earths globe, that there will be such a clashing in the Army, that the noise of it will give occasion either of the weale or woe of the whole Kingdome; in the mean space (to let England see her complexion in the glasse of time.) I am afraid (not making it an Article of my Beliefe) that though the King is at (a supposed) liberty, yet there is room enough in that little Ile to be guilty of Royall murder; which heavens forbid.

ART. XII.

I doe beleeve, That every true Subject, faithfull to his principles, loyall to his Soveraigne, and obedient to the Lawes, with a willing heart and chearfull spirit, may make this free and full profession, without breach of Charity, or hurt to Conscience, still praying for the returne of his Majestie, with safety, freedome, and honor, the continuation of Parliaments (but not for Seven yeers) the purity of Religion, the establishing and exercise of wholsom Lawes, and the setting of Peace, love and Unity both amongst our selves, and all others our Christian brethren.

FINIS.